

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/697,662

Examiner

Russell Frejd

Applicant(s)

MANRIQUE

Art Unit

2128

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Applicant's amendment received 20 September 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-72.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Russell Frejd
RUSSELL FREJD
PRIMARY EXAMINER

In re Application of: Manrique

Allowance of Application # 10/697,662

1. The following communication is in response to Applicant's amendment received 20-September-2006, in reply to the Office Action of 24-August-2006. Claims 1-72 are pending.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

2.1 The instant application is directed to a non-obvious improvement over the information described in the prior art, the most relevant of the prior art of record being the article authored by Bangtsson et al., entitled *Shape Optimization of an Acoustic Horn*, which discloses a method for optimally designing the shape of an acoustic horn that provides an impedance matching between a waveguide and the surrounding air within a given design frequency range, wherein a mathematical model is used to describe the radiation impedance of the horn, as well as the effects associated with modal conversion.

2.2 The improvement of the present application comprises, in various embodiments, a method for creating a waveguide by establishing a design metric based upon acoustic impedance, setting initial design values for the waveguide as divided into a plurality of sections, and creating the waveguide based upon modifications made to the initial design values in accordance with the design metric.

2.3 These patentable distinctions are included in various embodiments in each of the independent claims, nos. 1, 18, 32, 38, 44, and 61. For at least these reasons, the art of record,

In re Application of: Manrique

either individually or in combination, fails to teach, suggest, or render obvious the useful, concrete and tangible <method for creating a waveguide> having the corresponding structure which is disclosed in the specification and equivalents thereof at least at page 12, line 2 through page 38, line 14, and Figures 1-20. In view of the foregoing, the claims of the present application are found to be patentable over the prior art.

Response Guidelines

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should clearly be labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

3.1 Any response to the Examiner in regard to this allowance should be

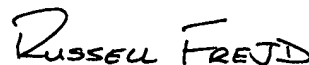
directed to: Russell Frejd, telephone number (571) 272-3779, Monday-Friday from 0530 to 1400 ET, **or** the examiner's supervisor, Kamini Shah, telephone number (571) 272-2279. Inquires of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC2100 Group Receptionist (571) 272-2100.

mailed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or faxed to: (571) 273-8300

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401 Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314.

Date: 1-October-2006



**RUSSELL FREJD
PRIMARY EXAMINER**